THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c) Cases of disproportionate assets in respect of 52 railway officials have been registered during the calendar years 2007, 2008 and 2009 (upto June). Action under major penalty/minor penalty/prosecution has been taken in 18 cases. 20 cases are under investigation and the balance 14 cases were closed as no irregularities were noticed.

**Requirement of cotton seeds**

*412. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of the cotton seed requirement in the country in the coming years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assessment has been made as to how many varieties, in terms of quantity, the public sector would supply and how much Bt. and Non-Bt variety of cotton seeds the private sector would supply to the farmers of this country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A requirement of 2,38,224 quintals for 11 major cotton growing States has been assessed for 2010-2011.

(c) and (d) Details are given in the Statement.

***Statement***

*State-wise details of cotton seed requirement in the country for* 2010-11

*(Quantity in quintals)*

| Sl. No. | State | Total Cotton Seed Requirement | Public Sector Seed Supply | | Private Sector Seed Supply | | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Non-Bt. Cotton | Bt. Cotton | Non-Bt. Cotton | Bt. Cotton | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 25295 | — | — | 770 | 24525 | |
| 2. | Gujarat | 60102 | 29836 | — | 8766 | 21500 | |
| 3. | Karnataka | 27950 | 23200 | — | 1300 | 3450 | |
| 4. | Madhya Pradesh | 9350 | 200 | — | 250 | 8900 | |
| 5. | Maharashtra | 59492 | 3339 | 2000 | 7553 | 46600 | |
| 6. | Tamil Nadu | 6120 | 1750 | — | 3245 | 1125 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7. | Punjab | 12360 | 960 | — | — | 11400 | |
| 8. | Haryana | 13540 | 400 | — | 600 | 12540 | |
| 9. | Rajasthan | 22140 | 4000 | — | 14750 | 3390 | |
| 10. | Orissa | 1500 | 75 | — | 1425 | — | |
| 11. | West Bengal | 375 | 375 | — | — | — | |
| | GRAND TOTAL: | 238224 | 64135 | 2000 | 38659 | 133430 | |

**Extension of Budge Budge-Naihati rail line up to Bandel**

*413. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the long pending demand for extension of the existing Budge Budge-Naihati rail line up to Bandel; and

(b) if so, whether Government is considering the same?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) As per available records, there is no such pending proposal for extension of Budge-Budge-Naihati line upto Bandel. A double line connection already exists from Budge-Budge to Naihati. Naihati to Bandel is connected via Jubilee bridge which is a single line (gauntleted track). Presently, a new Jubilee bridge with double line is under construction in lieu of the old one to improve connectivity.

**Delay in Food Security Legislation**

*414. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there would be delay in bringing the Food Security Legislation due to absence of consensus on measurement of poverty amongst different Government agencies;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of Rural Development had given any proposal to define the 'Below Poverty Line' criteria; and

(c) the position of his Ministry in this regard and the parameters of poverty described by his Ministry and by different Government agencies?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Planning Commission is the nodal agency of Central Government for estimating poverty at national and State levels. Based on poverty estimates of Planning Commission, the Ministry of Rural Development issues guidelines for identification of BPL families in rural areas. The earlier guidelines issued by Ministry of Rural Development were